(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
29 March 2001 (29.03.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/21157 A2

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: A61K 31/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA00/01132

(22) International Filing Date:
21 September 2000 (21.09.2000)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2,282,982 21 September 1999 (21.09.1999) CA
2,300,246 9 March 2000 (09.03.2000) CA

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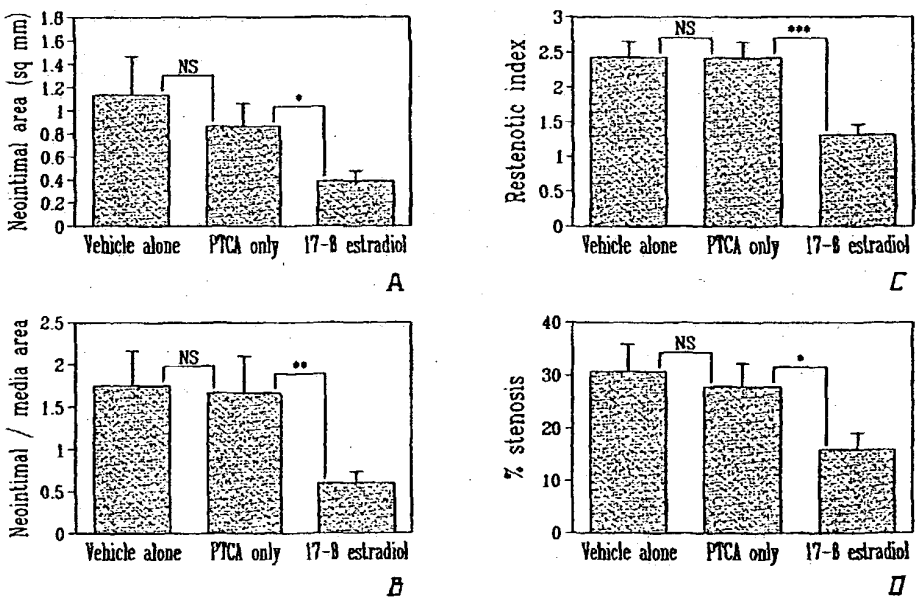
(81) Designated States *(national)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(regional)*: ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.*

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: LOCAL DELIVERY OF 17-BETA ESTRADIOL FOR PREVENTING VASCULAR INTIMA HYPERPLASIA AND FOR IMPROVING VASCULAR ENDOTHELIUM FUNCTION AFTER VASCULAR INJURY



(57) Abstract: The cardioprotective effects of estrogen are well recognized. In *in vitro* experiments, and upon systemic administration, 17-beta estradiol has shown to inhibit vascular smooth muscle cell proliferation and intima hyperplasia and to improve vascular endothelium function, after vascular injury. We hypothesized that locally delivered 17-beta estradiol could prevent restenosis. Compositions are use of 17-beta estradiol for *in-situ* administration at a vascular injured site are objects of the present invention.

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